

REMARKS

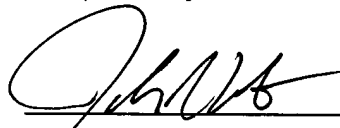
Claims 9-15 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, Applicants cancel claims 1-8.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 50-1353.

Applicants respectfully submit that this Application is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration and prompt allowance are respectfully requested.

Date: September 26, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to be 'J. Keating', is written over a horizontal line.

Attorneys for Applicant(s)

Joseph R. Keating
Registration No. 37,368

Christopher A. Bennett
Registration No. 46,710

KEATING & BENNETT LLP
10400 Eaton Place, Suite 312
Fairfax, VA 22030
Telephone: (703) 385-5200
Facsimile: (703) 385-5080